

OF THE

SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

OF THE

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

January 20, 1885.

Prof. Flower, LL.D., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

The Secretary read the following report on the additions made to the Society's Menageric during the month of December 1884:—

The total number of registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of December was 68, of which 3 were by birth, 35 by presentation, 7 by purchase, 9 by exchange, and 14 were received on deposit. The total number of departures during the same period, by death and removals, was 122.

Amongst the additions during the month attention was called to :-

1. A Muntjac, deposited by Mr. II. E. Dresser, F.Z.S., on December 20th, which appears to belong to a species distinct from any yet described, and which, with Mr. Dresser's approval, I propose to call the Hairy-fronted Muntjac (Cervulus crinifrons). This animal is readily distinguishable from the Muntjacs hitherto known to us by the long hairs which spring from the forehead and summit of the head, and almost conceal the short horns, and by its much longer tail. The single male specimen received was transmitted to this country by A. Michie, Fsq., of Ningpo, China, and was doubtless obtained in that part of China.

It may be shortly described as follows:-

CERVULUS CRINIFRONS, sp. nov. (Plate I.)

Form of C. vaginalis, but rather larger in size and tail much longer. General colour dark brown, passing into blackish on the limbs and sides of rump. Head, ears, and elongated hairs of the bushy forehead light brown, rather yellowish. Upper surface of tail black.

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Under surface of tail and buttocks pure white. Belly and limbs dark. Height about 24 inches, length of tail about 9 inches.

Hab. Vicinity of Ningpo, China (A. Michie).



Head of Cervulus crinifrons.

Obs. Readily known from all other species of Cervulus by its bushy forehead, which much resembles that of Elaphodus michianus, and by its long tail.

2. A young male Nubian Ibex (Capra nubiana), presented December 30th by Mrs. Laing, of Thornhill, Sunderland. This Ibex is accompanied by a Domestic Goat, with which it has bred and produced a male hybrid, which closely resembles its male parent. The species is new to the Society's Collection.

Mr. Sclater called attention to the breeding of a pair of the Chinese Blue Magpie (Cyanopolius cyanus) in the Society's Gardens in 1884, and exhibited specimens of their eggs. Six eggs were laid in May in an open nest, made of sticks and lined with grass and wool, in the Western Aviary. The period of incubation was about 18 days, and four young birds were hatched on June 11. The young birds remained about three weeks in the nest. They had black heads upon assuming their first plumage, but at first of a dull black. By the end of the year they were so like their parents that it was impossible to distinguish them. About a fortnight after the young birds left the nest a second clutch of eggs was laid, but came to nothing.

The eggs were of a pale greenish stone-colour, freckled with two

